

Notes on the Nez Perce Tribe

From the book

The Nez Perce People of the Northwest
A Historical Look at the Native Americans
by Ruby Maile
National Geographic Theme Set

Homeland

The Nez Perce fished from swift rivers.
The Nez Perce homeland had grassy plains, swift rivers and high mountains.
The Nez Perce homeland was in the northwest part of the US.

Food

Nez Perce men hunted and shot bison for their skin and meat.
Nez Perce men shot mountain goats with a bow and arrow for their skin and meat.
Nez Perce men hunted and shot elk for their skin and meat.
Nez Perce men speared and ate fish from the swift rivers.
The Nez Perce ate bison meat, bear meat, elk meat and deer meat.
The Nez Perce women gathered nuts, berries and roots.
The Nez Perce hunted and shot bear with a bow and arrow across the grassy plains.

Clothing

Nez Perce men wore deer skin leggings.
In the winter the Nez Perce men wore deerskin and bison skin robes.
Nez Perce men wore a breechcloth made of deerskin.
Nez Perce men wore fringed shirts made of deerskin.

Shelter

In the summer the Nez Perce lived in bison skin tipis.
In the winter the Nez Perce lived in longhouses.

Crafts

Nez Perce women wove with porcupine quills
Nez Perce women wove baskets from bear grass.
Nez Perce women sewed elk's teeth on the deerskin dresses.

Government

The Nez Perce Chief spoke sign language around the campfire.
The Nez Perce Indians spoke stories around the campfire of the high plains and swift rivers.